

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 252455

44

ORIGIN EUR-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:EUR/WE:MLDURKEE

APPROVED BY:EUR/WE:MLDURKEE

EUR/NE:JSHUMATE

----- 033786

O 121647Z OCT 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 252455

FOLLOWING REPEAT MADRID 7713 SENT ACTION SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
INFO SECDEF CNO USCINCEUR CINCUSNAVEUR USMISSION NATO OCT 8
QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 7713

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, NMOC, GI, SP

SUBJ: GIBRALTAR--SPANISH PROTEST US NPW VISIT

REF: MADRID 7190, 7191, 7209, 7441, 7689

1. DURING OCT 7 CALL BY ME ON ANOTHER MATTER, FOREIGN MINISTRY
UNDER SECRETARY SOLANO HANDED ME A NOTE VERBALE EXPRESSING
THE MINISTRY'S "FIRMEST PROTEST" OF THE ENTRY OF TWO NPW'S
(THE NIMITZ AND THE SOUTH CAROLINA) IN "SPANISH WATERS"
OCT 1-3 WITHOUT THE PERMISSION REQUIRED BY ARTICLE VIII OF
THE AGREEMENT IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP
AND COOPERATION. (FULL TEXT OF NOTE CONTAINED SEPTTEL.)

2. SOLANO, WHILE SAYING THAT HE WAS PRESENTING THE PROTEST IN
A FRIENDLY WAY, NEVERTHELESS EMPHASIZED THAT THE PROTEST WAS
"ENERGETIC," THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER (WHO HAD PERSONALLY
INITIALED THE NOTE) HAD NOT LIKED THE US ACTION ONE BIT, AND
THAT THE SPANISH NAVY FELT THE SAME WAY. PARTICULARLY PAINFUL,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 252455

HE SAID, WAS THE FACT THAT THE VIOLATION SHOULD HAVE OCCURRED

SO SOON AFTER THE TREATY ENTERED INTO EFFECT, AND PRECISELY ON THE SAME DAY THAT THE SPANISH-US COUNCIL WAS BEING CONSTITUTED.

3. I DREW HIS ATTENTION TO THE VARIOUS DISCUSSIONS OF THIS MATTER BY THE AMBASSADOR WITH SENIOR SPANISH OFFICIALS. SOLANO ACKNOWLEDGED THESE, BUT MAINTAINED HIS POSITION. I STRESSED TO HIM THE POINT THAT, AS LONG AS US SHIPS ARE NEEDED TO OPERATE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN ON BEHALF OF WESTERN DEFENSE INTERESTS SHARED BY SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES, THEY WOULD NEED PORTS OF CALL. SOLANO ACKNOWLEDGED THIS POINT, AND OBSERVED THAT THE MATTER OF NPW VISITS TO SPAIN WAS BEING WORKED ON BY OUR TWO NAVIES. THIS MATTER HAD NOT YET BEEN RESOLVED.

4. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS FORMALISTIC PROTEST WITHOUT, AS YET AS LEAST, ATTENDANT NEGATIVE PUBLICITY IS A BETTER OUTCOME TO AN UNFORTUNATE CHAIN OF EVENTS THAN MIGHT HAVE OCCURRED. BECAUSE OF THE INCLUSION OF THE CLAIM THAT THE SHIPS ENTERED "SPANISH WATERS" WITHOUT PERMISSION, WE PRESUME WE SHOULD REPLY WITH A NOTE FOR THE RECORD EVEN THOUGH THE TERMINATION OF THIS INCIDENT WITH MINIMUM DAMAGE WOULD BE MORE LIKELY IF WE WERE SIMPLY TO FILE THE FOREIGN OFFICE NOTE WITHOUT REPLY. ANY NOTE FOR THE RECORD SHOULD, IN ANY EVENT, BE DRAFTED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO AVOID TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE RAISING EMOTIONS ON THIS ISSUE. IT MIGHT, FOR INSTANCE, SIMPLY ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE NOTE AND SAY THAT OUR VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED SEPARATELY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE INSTRUCTIONS.

EATON

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOTE VERBALE, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, MILITARY VISITS, NUCLEAR POWERED SHIPS, USS NIMITZ, USS SOUTH CAROLINA, TERRITORIAL WATERS VIOLATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE252455
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/WE:MLDURKEE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760383-0611
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761060/aaaacagg.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MADRID 7190
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GIBRALTAR--SPANISH PROTEST US NPW VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MNUC, PLOS, GI, SP, US
To: LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006